

## MEETING OF

### THE DELAWARE AGRICULTURAL LANDS PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

A meeting of the Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Foundation was held at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, 2320 S. DuPont Hwy. Dover, Delaware, July 8, 2009, with the following members in attendance:

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| Robert F. Garey, Chairman        | Edwin Kee, Secretary of Agriculture                          |
| L. Allen Messick, Jr., Treasurer | Kevin Coyle (representing Collin O'Mara, Secretary of DNREC) |
| Lyn Davenport, Secretary         | Velda Jones-Potter, State Treasurer                          |
| G. Ray Staats                    | Theodore P. Bobola, Jr.                                      |

Absent: Joseph Wick, and William Vanderwende.

The following staff members were in attendance: Michael McGrath, Howard Mesick, Milton Melendez, Scott Blaier, Cathy Mesick, Robin West, and Kathi Spangler.

Others in attendance: F. Michael Parkowski, and Mr. Mike Brown.

Chairman Garey opened the meeting at 8:30 a.m. with prayer.

#### I. Progress Report:

Milton Melendez informed the Board that we have a total of 997 farms in preservation districts totaling 147,090 acres, with a total of 555 farms under agricultural easements totaling 94,803 acres at a cost of \$156,518,032. For PDR 15 there are a total of 54 farms, comprising 3,985 acres, with a value of \$52,263,437. For PDR 16, there are a total of 9 farms, comprising 577 acres, with a value of \$6,875,414. For the Forestland Preservation Program there are 34 Forestland Preservation Areas comprising 2,506 acres

#### II. Expansion Eligibility & Final Approval:

1. Tuthill District (Masten Addition), ID#K-09-04-006-3. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Tuthill District (Masten Addition), seconded by Velda Jones-Potter. Motion unanimously approved.**
2. Tuthill District (Masten Addition), ID#K-09-04-006-4. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Tuthill District (Masten Addition), seconded by Velda Jones-Potter. Motion unanimously approved.**
3. Stevenson Farm Expansion of the Prime Hook District, ID#S-09-06-063A. After discussion, **Ray Staats moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Stevenson Farm Expansion of the Prime Hook District contingent upon closing, seconded by Lyn Davenport. Motion unanimously approved.**
4. Deer Run Farms Expansion of the Jeff Wheatley District, ID#S-09-05-035G. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Deer Run Farms Expansion of the Jeff Wheatley District, seconded by Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**

#### III. Secretary of Agriculture's Veto – Secretary Kee waived his right of veto for the above Expansions.

#### IV. Public Comments – Mr. Michael Brown stated that the Forest Management Plan is not a negative. Many landowners want such plans for their forestland.

#### V. Minutes:

Chairman Garey asked if there were any comments or changes to the June 10, 2009, minutes. Hearing none, the Chairman asked for a motion to approve the minutes. **Velda Jones-Potter moved to approve the June minutes, seconded by Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**

VI. Financial Highlights:

Howard Mesick presented the Financial Summary for the month of June, 2009, informing the Foundation Board that we had, as of June 30, 2009, \$181,243.96 in the Foundation's interest bearing State of Delaware account. We received \$22,422.28 revenue from rollback taxes. Expenditures for the month of May totaled \$57,658.82. After discussion **Lyn Davenport moved to approve the June 2009 financial statement as presented, seconded by Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**

Foundation Budget – Howard Mesick presented a memorandum for an increase in the FY'09 budget by \$30,198.62. After discussion, **Allen Messick, Jr. moved to approve the increase in the Foundation budget, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**

VII. Executive Session – There was no need for an Executive Session.

VIII. Approval of Kent County and Sussex County Selections for PDR 14

Kent and Sussex County selections for PDR 14 have not yet been made. They will be made soon and will have to be considered at the next Foundation meeting.

IX. Other Business

Michael McGrath asked the Board if they would wish to have the presentation from the Delaware Community Foundation at the August meeting. The Board agreed to have the presentation at that time. Secretary Kee inquired about the RFP for the Wilson Farm and was informed that the Foundation counsel is working on a draft that will be ready by August and should be distributed by the first of December. The prior tenant should be out by December 31<sup>st</sup>.

X. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Foundation, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m. The next meeting of the Foundation will be held on August 12, 2009 at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Lyn Davenport  
Secretary